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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kazunori ANAZAWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 1753

Application No.: 10/646,834

Examiner: K. MAYEKAR

Filed: August 25, 2003

Docket No.: 116924

For: MANUFACTURING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CARBON NANOTUBE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

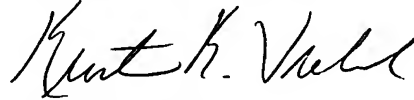
In reply to the November 2, 2006, Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group II, claims 10-18, with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-18 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the other group of claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 (stating that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added)). It is respectfully

submitted that this policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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